

CLAIMS

1. An appetite suppressing agent which comprises, as an active ingredient, a mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19.
2. A basal metabolism promoting agent which comprises, as an active ingredient, a mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19.
3. An agent for improving and/or preventing obesity which comprises, as an active ingredient, a mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19.
4. An agent for enhancing the effect of kinesitherapy which comprises, as an active ingredient, a mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19.
5. The agent according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the lactic acid that is a repeating unit in the poly lactic acid consists substantially of L-lactic acid.
6. The agent according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19 is a fraction obtained by condensing lactic acids by dehydration under an inactive atmosphere, subjecting the ethanol- and methanol-soluble fractions of the obtained reaction solution to reverse phase column chromatography, and eluting with 25 to 50 weight % acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH 2 to 3 and then with 90 weight % or more acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH 2 to 3.
7. The agent according to claim 6, wherein condensation by dehydration is performed by stepwise decompression and temperature rise under nitrogen gas atmosphere.
8. The agent according to claim 6 or 7, wherein reverse phase column chromatography is performed by ODS column chromatography.
9. Food and drink for suppression of appetite, promotion of basal metabolism,

improvement and/or prevention of obesity, and/or enhancement of the effect of kinesitherapy, which comprises, as an active ingredient, a mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19.

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